

Interview with Tiffany Wilmot, president, Wilmot Inc – Sustainability Consulting (April 2020)

Q: What are you are working on as part of the Mayor's Sustainability Advisory Committee?

A: I'm honored to be working on the climate and energy subcommittee for the mayor's committee

Q: How/ why did you become passionate about sustainability?

A: Many people and experiences in my life have made me passionate about sustainability. My love of animals, the beauty of the earth, and traveling the world opened my eyes to the obvious - that we're all connected. Here's a story about one pivotal moment.

In the 1980's, my father was trying to get his flying hours completed in order to become a commercial pilot. He'd fly planes to south America that didn't have instrumentation. So he had to used visual flight tracking to get to the airports. He'd come home and tell me that it was hard to figure out where he was going because people were cutting down the rainforests so fast that it looked different every time he flew there. He explained that to make money, they were clear-cutting several football field size swaths each day. So many trees were cut that every time he flew down there it looked different, it made for extremely dangerous flying conditions.

Then he asked me if I knew where the oxygen came from that I breathed. It was shocking to realize that what other people did impacted my father's safety *and* my ability to simply breathe. It was a turning point for me.

Q: What is your top sustainability tip for others?

A: Don't buy so much stuff.

Q: What is your vision for a more sustainable Nashville?

A: Working from home, less driving, only using what you need. All of us working together to make our city the best it can be.

Q: How are you celebrating the 50th anniversary of Earth Day?

A: Hiking at our city's treasure...Percy Warner Park.